

Lamprey WMPAAC Annual Report November 2007

Presented to His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch
NH Senate President, Sylvia Larsen
Speaker of the NH House of Representatives, Terie Norelli
Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, Thomas S. Burack
and the State Library

November 1, 2007
by the
Lamprey River Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee

In compliance with Laws of 2002, Chapter 278, the Lamprey River Water Management Area Advisory Committee is pleased to submit this annual report of the committee's findings and activities for 2006. This law defines the two committees for each river under the pilot program to advise the Instream Flow process—the Technical Review Committee (TRC) and the Water Management Area Advisory Committee (WMPAAC). According to Chapter 278, "Each Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee shall make an interim report regarding its progress and findings on or before November 1 of each year of their existence to the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, and the State Library."

NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) maintains a website for the Lamprey WMPAAC at www.des.state.nh.us/rivers/instream/lamprey.asp?link=meetings&meet=wmpa. The website contains the minutes, agendas, and copies of all presentations and documents distributed at the WMPAAC meetings. UNH has a Lamprey Instream Flow Project website at www.unh.edu/erg/lamprey/.

The Lamprey WMPAAC did not meet between November 1, 2006 and October 31, 2007. However, their meeting October 20, 2006 resulted in a contract amendment to conduct an additional low flow survey that was approved by Governor and Council on August 22, 2007. During the October meeting, committee members noted that the lowest surveyed flows were not as low as some historical low flows known on the Lamprey. The contractor had completed the four surveys required in the original contract at the lowest flow occurring during the 2006 field season. Flow conditions at very low flows in the Lamprey have not occurred in the past two years so measurements could not be made at these flows. During the summer of 2007, lower flows appeared to be approaching and a contract amendment was drawn up and approved to add another river survey if flows dropped sufficiently. The completion of the additional survey added important data to the assessment process.

The October 2006 meeting also included the final review of the report describing the instream public uses, outstanding characteristics, and resources that the program is designed to protect. The report identified the protected entities and whether they are flow-dependent or not. The report also recommended assessment methods that the Technical Review Committee evaluated. The report was finalized November 21, 2006 and can be found at www.des.nh.gov/Rivers/instream/lamprey/study.html under Task 4.

Committee Changes

David Cedarholm was approved by Governor and Council as the replacement for Robert Levesque representing Affected Dam Owners on March 7, 2007. Dave is the Durham Town

Engineer. Ray Konisky was approved as the replacement for Jay O'Dell representing conservation interests in the WMPA on May 16, 2007. Ray is a Marine Conservation Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy.

**LAMPREY RIVER WATER MANGEMENT PLANNING AREA ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (WMPAAC)**

<p>Sen. John S. Barnes, Jr. 100 Harriman Hill Rd. Raymond, NH 03077 (603) 895-9352 jack.barnes@leg.state.nh.us</p> <p>Rep. Frank Bishop 108 Prescott Rd. Raymond, NH 03077 (603) 895-4317</p> <p>Ms. Ann Caron Scenic Nursery, Inc. 9 Dudley Rd. Raymond, NH 03077 info@scenicnursery.net</p> <p>Mr. Glen Caron Scenic Nursery, Inc. 9 Dudley Rd. Raymond, NH 03077 (603) 895-0236 info@scenicnursery.net</p> <p>Mr. David Cedarholm Durham Public Works Dept. 100 Stone Quarry Dr. Durham, NH 03824 (603) 868-5578 dcedarholm@ci.durham.nh.us</p> <p>Mr. James Duprie 151 Wednesday Hill Rd. Lee, NH 03824 (603) 765-5532 j.duprie@comcast.net</p> <p>Mr. Wesley East Chief Operator UNH Water Treatment Plant 17 Leavitt Lane Durham, NH 03824 (603) 862-1390 Wesley.east@unh.edu</p>	<p>Mr. Thomas Fargo (Chair) Strafford Regional Planning Commission 14 Cobble Hill Dr. Dover, NH 03820 (603) 743-4290 tomfargo@ttlc.net</p> <p>Mr. James Fosburgh National Park Service 15 State St. Boston, MA 02109 (617) 223-5191 Jamie_fosburgh@nps.gov</p> <p>Ms. Linda Fernald P.O. Box 450 Nottingham, NH 03290 (603) 679-2997 l_fernald@hotmail.com</p> <p>Mr. Brian Giles (Vice Chair) Lamprey River LAC 22 Lamprey Lane Lee, NH 03824 (603) 659-5884 bagiles@earthlink.net</p> <p>Mr. Michael King Epping Water & Sewer Commission 157 Main St. Epping Epping, NH 03042 (603) 679-5491 kingsofepping@fedweeknet.com</p> <p>Mr. Ray Konisky The Nature Conservancy Great Bay Office 112 Bay Road Newmarket, NH 03857 (603) 659-2678 Ext. 13 rkonisky@tnc.org</p> <p>Mr. Mike Lynch Public Works Dept. 100 Stone Quarry Dr. Durham, NH 03824 (603) 868-5578 mlynch@ci.durham.nh.us</p>
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<p>Mr. Jay G. Odell 167 Exeter Rd. Newfields, NH 03856 (603) 772-2203 jodell@tnc.org</p> <p>Mr. Frank Reinhold Flag Hill Winery 297 North River Rd. Lee, NH 03824 (603) 659-2949 frank@flaghill.com</p> <p>Ms. Judith Spang 55 Wiswall Rd. Durham, NH 03824 (603) 659-5436 Judith@kestrelnet.net</p>	<p>Ms. Therese Thompson P.O. Box 579 Nottingham, NH 03290-0579 (603) 895-3050 tathompson@mountida.edu</p> <p>Mr. Kevin M. Webb Durham Planning Board 22 Davis Avenue Durham, NH 03824 (603) 868-6949 kzwebb@comcast.net</p>
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Contact: C. Wayne Ives, P.G., Hydrogeologist
Instream Flow Specialist
Watershed Management Bureau
NH Department of Environmental Services
PO Box 95 - 29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0095
Telephone (603)-271-3548
Fax (603)-271-7894
Email Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov
www.des.nh.gov/rivers/instream/